AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICTION

Please amend ¶[0024] of the specification as follows:

[0024] FIG. 4 illustrates the articulating suture retriever 100 with the trigger 14 pushed forward to the handle stop. When the trigger is moved toward this position, the cam 17 pivots such that ~~lobe~~ cam surface 19 urges the inner rod to move toward the distal end of the retriever 100, thus causing the jaw 28 of the distal tip 25 to pivot to the "closed" position. Trigger 14 is locked in the forward position when the cam ~~lobe~~ surface 19 of the trigger rotates slightly past the center line of the shaft to when pushed forward, binding the mechanism into a locked position. There is no lock at all in the open position. Preferably ~~liver~~ lever 14 and cam 17 are a unitary construction.